

### REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the communication pointing out the inconsistent numbering as provided in the clean and marked up version of Claim 1 in the Office Action response filed on December 17, 2002. The Applicant submits a corrected version of the set of claims that corresponds with those claims as filed on December 17, 2003. The corrected version of the claims are presented in the new format adopted by USPTO. The arguments as provided in the response of December 17, 2002 remain the same with regards to the currently provided claims.

Based upon the corrected version of claims, as provided in the present communication, and the arguments previously provided in the response of December 17, 2002, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present invention and allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner should have any questions, please contact the undersigned for any further clarification. Applicant hereby requests further consideration of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date August 18, 2003

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### CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed Amendment in Response to Office Action is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail No. EU936173435US, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on this 18<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2003.

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